

## REPORT

ON

## NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 3rd December 1904.

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## ASSAM PAPERS.

Nil.



## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE report of the Tibet Mission, says the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 19th November, makes no mention of the loss suffered by the Tibetans, although everyone knows that the loss of life on their side was very heavy. It is for Lord Curzon to show the actual gain from this expedition, when China too is sending a Mission to Tibet, the chief officer of which is expected at Calcutta.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

2. Referring to the controversy in the newspapers as to the objects of the Kabul Mission, in the course of which some say that a request would be made to the Amir to open a railway between Chaman and Kandahar and allow a portion of the British Army to protect the frontier, and others question as to what frontier is to be protected and against whom, *Al Punch* [Bankipore] of the 26th November says:—

AL PUNCH,  
Nov. 26th, 1904.

What possible difficulty can there be in it, as the Amir would protect both the British frontier as well as his own against anyone who encroaches upon the same, thereby giving proof of true friendship and alliance?

3. The *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 28th November has the following:—

ROZNAMA-I-MUKAD-  
DAS HABLUL  
MATEEN,  
Nov. 28th, 1904.

The Cretan question. It seems that for some time to come the Cretan question will darken the political horizon of Europe. Prince George in the memorandum which he recently handed to the Powers greatly emphasised the certainty of a disturbance if the annexation of Crete to Greece, for which the Cretans are so anxious, were delayed any longer. Crete would have been long annexed to Greece but for Russia's opposition. As Russia is now involved in war in the Far East, the Powers have availed themselves of the opportunity to keep their word with Greece regarding the annexation. It may be the European Powers are playing this game simply to divert the attention of the Porte from the recent events in the province of Najol, an important place near the Persian Gulf.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

4. The *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 23rd November says that a headless corpse was seen floating in the Baniakati *khal* near Barisal town. It is suspected that one Helaladdi of Barisal-Alikanda village, a peon of the District Board, was murdered and the body was thrown into the *khal* after decapitation to prevent identification. A vigorous enquiry ought to be made and exemplary punishment meted out to the culprit.

KASIPUR NIVASI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1904.

5. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 23rd November takes advantage of the reopening of the chaukidari question, as evidenced by the appointment of Mr. Savage as special officer to report on the best methods of improving the existing chaukidari system, to call attention to the highly oppressive nature of the chaukidari-tax. It is pointed out that the chaukidars, far from being guardians of the peace, merely act as accomplices of the local thieves and dacoits. The only parties who benefit by their existence are the superior officers of the police, who, when they go out touring in the villages, use them as their tools to procure supplies cheaply. It is suggested that as the people at large derive no benefit from the services of the chaukidar, they should be relieved of the burden of maintaining him by paying the chaukidari-tax.

JASOHAR,  
Nov. 23rd, 1904.



## (b)—Working of the Courts.

KHULNA,  
Nov. 24th, 1904.

6. In continuation of the allegations against the Sub-Registrar of Kaliganj in Khulna (noticed in paragraph 59 of the Report on Native Papers in Bengal for the week ending the 1st October 1904), a correspondent of the *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 24th November furnishes a detailed statement showing the names of some of his debtors as well as the amounts for which each is indebted. Detailed figures are also published regarding his office and household expenses, which are taken to prove that he lives in a style which compels him to eke out his income by lending out money on interest to the local people. The exact names and location of certain pieces of land he is alleged to have purchased at an auction sale in the name of his brothers and some other persons are also given.

KHULNA,  
Nov. 24th, 1904.

7. The same paper makes the following allegations against Babu Ram Kamal Gupta, a Deputy Magistrate of Khulna:—  
Allegations against Babu Ram Kamal Gupta, Deputy Magistrate of Khulna.

(1) The Deputy Babu cannot always proceed with a case without getting the papers in connection with it explained to him by his *peshkar*. At such time he causes the Court-room to be cleared of the mukhtars and pleaders.

(2) As Income-tax Deputy-Collector his assessments of income are quite arbitrary. Incomes which were formerly exempted, or used to be assessed to a tax of Rs. 10, are now assessed to a tax of Rs. 20. He has invented a rough way of calculating a man's income by simply examining the amount of the municipal rates he pays. He has, further, publicly made statements which justify a supposition that any appeals that might be made to him against these assessments would not receive proper consideration.

The paper takes this officer as a typical product of the new system of appointments by nomination.

HITAVARTA,  
Nov. 27th, 1904.

8. A correspondent of the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 27th November, named Siv Narayan Singh, says that the people of Gaya were happy and lived in peace during the absence on leave of Mr. Kirk, their District Judge, and expected that he would not be sent to Gaya again. But he has come back, and immediately after setting foot here has deprived many poor people of their livelihood. Mercy is unknown to him. We often hear of servants being kicked by him.

HITAVARTA.

The Revenue sales.

9. The same paper has the following:—

Looking into the laws of the country, it becomes clear that in framing them more regard was paid to the self-interest of the rulers than to justice and good government of the people. The sunset law is quoted as an instance under which the purchaser of an estate at an auction sale is considered to have been in possession of the same from the date on which the instalment of the revenue for the non-payment of which it was sold became due, but the owner of the estate is made liable to Government for any dues that might accrue between the date on which the instalment became due and the date of the order passed on appeal, should any appeal be preferred. So in returning any surplus of the sale-proceeds to the owner, Government deducts not only the amount of the arrears for which the estate was sold, but also the amount falling due between the aforesaid dates. The injustice of the law which makes the owner of an estate responsible for the dues for a period during which he is supposed not to be in possession is quite evident. It is a great blot on the law of the country and unworthy of a ruler. The Government will therefore be pleased to remove it.

## (c)—Jails.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
Nov. 22d, 1904.

10. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 23rd November writes as follows on the Jail Administration Report for 1903:—  
The Jail Administration Report for 1903.

An examination of the death-rate in the Indian jails for the last 24 years shews that the number of deaths has gradually



diminished. The point that attracts attention is that this improvement is due, not to any improvement in the jail diet, or to the carrying out of any sanitary measures, but to some unexplained cause. This result is a matter for congratulation to Government, but to us it is not a source of unmixed pleasure. The arrangement that Government has made for the preservation of the lives of the prisoners are such as are calculated to put an end to their existence. The great complaint is the want of proper nourishment, which is responsible for fever, dysentery and other deadly maladies. That they manage to come out alive from the prisons is due to the fact that they are accustomed to misery and hardships, and that is why they do not entirely break down under the strain.

If a sympathetic officer were appointed to enquire, like a detective officer, into the nature of the food-stuffs that are purchased for the prisoners in the jails, it would be found that, generally speaking, the worst articles are supplied. Unless, therefore, a better system of supervision is introduced, nothing can stop the misapplication of Government money and promote the comfort and convenience of the unfortunate prisoners. Consumption and bowel complaints are among the most prevalent fatal maladies in Indian jails, as is also stated in the report under consideration. This is as might be expected from the quality of the food that is usually given. So long as the prisoners are not regarded as human beings and the jail officers are not sympathetic towards them, no satisfactory improvement in the administration of Indian jails can be expected.

11. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 28th November says that the falling off in the number of prisoners in the jail of Bengal has been shown, in the annual report of the jails for the present year, to be due to better crops of the year. If this statement be admitted to be correct, the Government shall have to confess that the Indians are really not a dishonest people and it is only the pinch of hunger that makes them steal.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 28th, 1904.

(d)—Education.

12. Referring to the recent pronouncement of the Lieutenant-Governor on the subject of free education at the Burdwan Raj College, the *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 23rd November points out that in this country the zamindars cease to be free agents when a high official publicly indicates the line of policy he would wish them to adopt on any particular question. The best proof of the necessity of a free College like that now existing at Burdwan is furnished by the fact that, in spite of the numerous superior advantages of Calcutta, the Burdwan College attracts students from all parts of Bengal. The present Maharaja should pause before finally deciding to abolish what was considered worthy of maintenance by his predecessors and what constitutes one of the best titles of the Burdwan Raj to glory and to the gratitude of the country. It is not unlikely that the doom of the free College will only be the precursor of a like fate for the Sadabrata House, where free food is supplied daily to the poor.

PALLIVASI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1904.

Lord Curzon has said many things about the need of improving the existing Colleges in India but nowhere can any utterance of his be found directed against Free Colleges as such. Sir A. Fraser has evidently gone a step further than Lord Curzon.

His Honour's belief is that as we are not so careful when inhaling the air simply because it is had free, so if education is imparted free it is likely to be received in an insanitary way (in a moral sense). The logic of this argument is not quite clear to the Hindu mind; and if it has appeared clear to the Maharaja of Burdwan's mind, then that only means a misfortune in store for the people at large.



SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 24th, 1904.

13. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 24th November quotes the following report of a speech made by the Lieutenant-Governor at the ceremony of prize-distribution at the Burdwan Raj College on the 18th November last:—

Sir A. Fraser at the Burdwan Raj College.

"The distribution over, His Honour made a speech in which, among other things, he said that he was pleased to see so many gentlemen present there, as their presence indicated their interest in the education of boys. He would have been gladder if the prize winners had been allowed to occupy front seats. He remembered that in bygone days on the occasion of the Convocation, graduates coming to take their degrees were allowed to occupy front seats in the Senate Hall, while gentlemen, however high their position might be, gladly occupied back seats—a practice which should, according to him, be followed. Then he said that the Raj College had an honourable history and that great credit was due to the Raj for maintaining it entirely at the cost of the Raj. But he doubted the advisability of throwing open the whole institution free. Comparing education to the breath of our life, he said that we are not so careful when inhaling the air simply because it is had free—some taking it in an unscientific way, some in an insanitary way; so if education, which is as important to life as breath, is imparted free, it is likely to be received in an insanitary way in a moral sense. So he would suggest that some of the boys ought to be made to pay for their education. He added that he must advance education—primary, secondary, and higher, but at the same time he was determined to advance sound education. He concluded by saying that from the views of some of the local gentlemen which he could ascertain he was of opinion that noisy criticism does not often permeate the homes of all thoughtful men."

and makes the following criticism on it:—

We are astounded at the sentiments expressed in this speech. In India free education had been the rule from time immemorial. It was only with the advent of the present ruling race with their commercial instincts that the system of paying for education came into vogue. Considering that our rulers demand a price even for such things as water and air, there is nothing surprising in their refusing to impart education without being paid a price for it.

But one has a right to ask Sir A. Fraser if it is not a fact that His Honour's own countrymen are gradually coming to have a better conception of the importance of a system of free education. His Honour must be aware of Mr. Andrew Carnegie's and Mr. Cecil Rhodes' splendid bequests for imparting high education to students free of all cost to themselves. His Honour well knows of the popularity of the system of endowments for the support of poor but deserving students in the great Universities of England. And yet, knowing all this, he cannot tolerate the idea of students receiving high education at the Burdwan Raj College without paying fees for it. It is an affair simply for the donor and those who benefit by the donation to settle among themselves. What right has His Honour to take offence and interfere and prevent the donor from continuing his generous policy? We are indeed deeply pained at His Honour's attitude on this occasion.

SANJIVANI.

The new Fellows of the Calcutta University.

14. In criticising the new list of Fellows for the reconstituted University of Calcutta, the same paper writes:—

When the question of University reform was first taken up by Government, many people prophesied that the improvement of education which Government then assigned as its motive for taking up the question was a mere plea, intended to hide the real motive, viz., a desire to bring the University completely under official control. The new published list of Fellows proves the truth of that prophecy.

The law empowers Government to make 80 appointments, but as a matter of fact only 64 seats have been filled up. Of these 64, 41 are in service under Government and 23 are outsiders. Of the 23 outsiders, 10 are Europeans and 13 Indians. Of the 10 Europeans, 5 are Professors in Colleges which receive aid from Government. And of the 13 Indians, 3 are in receipt of pensions from Government. It thus appears that Government can count on the support of as many as 41 officials, 10 Europeans and 3 pensioners (Indians), or about 54 votes among the 64 new members. Of the balance of 10 or 11, men like Rai Kailas Chandra Bose and Maulvi Seraj-ul-Islam can also be regarded as supporters of Government. There remain, then, about 7 or 8 independent men among these 64.

As regards the 10 Fellows elected by the graduates and the old University, there are at least some among them who cannot always be expected to express their views with independence.



So we come to the result that out of a total of 74 Fellows (64 nominated by Government and 10 elected), the division of strength will be as 57 or 58 votes for Government and 16 or 17 votes for the people. Such being the case, is it a baseless statement that the officialising of the University is complete?

It is true that there remain 10 more Fellows yet to be elected by the newly-constituted Faculties. But considering the kind of men of whom the new Faculties are composed, there is little chance of their electing independent men, and thereby adding further to the strength of the popular party in the Senate.

Analysing the *personnel* of the new Faculty of Arts it appears that out of a total of 42, it contains 20 Government servants, against 22 who are not Government servants. But of these 22, 10 are Europeans and 3 Government pensioners. So the real strength of the independent party left amounts to nine votes.

Examinations of the other faculties show a similar disproportion of strength between officials and non-officials in favour of the former. In the Faculty of Law for example, 8 are officials and 7 non-officials, but these latter 7 include a man like M. Serajul Islam who cannot be strictly regarded as a man of independent views. In the Faculty of Science, again, out of a total of 17 members, 11 are officials, and 6 non-officials, but these latter six include 2 Europeans. Similarly, in the Faculty of Medicine, 8 out of 11 are Government servants and 3 are independent practitioners, but of these 3, one, Rai Kailas Chandra Bose Bahadur is practically certain to support the official party on all occasions. Lastly, as regards the Faculty of Engineering. In this, out of a total of eight members, there is not a single Bengali or a single person unconnected with Government service.

The Faculties are to elect the members of the Syndicate and under the new law the Syndicate is to be the practical governing body of the University. But the analysis of strength as between officials and non-officials in the various Faculties made above, shows how little chance there is of any independent men being returned by the Faculties to the Syndicate.

So much for a criticism of the new list on general principles. Examining the list with regard to the claims of particular individuals, we notice first the inexpediency of omitting Rai Jagannath Barua, who was the sole representative of Assam on the Senate. As regards the representation of Bihar, Babu Saligram Singh has been removed to make room for an untried and unknown man like Babu Bhagabati Sahay.

On the Faculty of Medicine, the selection of some raw junior practitioners who have yet to win their spurs, in preference to men of standing in the profession like Rai Surya Kumar Sarbadhikary Bahadur, Dr. Debendra Nath Ray and Rai Chuni Lal Bose Bahadur, seems to afford ground for the common supposition that it has been made a special point to select only such men as are likely to prove obedient tools at the hands of Government.

On the Faculty of Arts, Sanskrit learning is left to be represented by a single man in the person of Mahamahopadhyaya Haraprasad Sastri. The assistance of men like Rai Rajendra Chandra Sastri Bahadur and Mahamahopadhyaya Nilmani Nyayalankar is evidently regarded as not necessary.

The omission of the names of Mr. A. M. Bose, Dr. Rash Behary Ghose, Babu Gauri Sankar De, Mr. Justice Ghosh, can only be explained on the ground that the presence of men of their independence in the new University would have proved a thorn in the side of the officials. Confining the activities of Babus Bhupendranath Bose and Debaprasad Sarbadhikary and Dr. Nilratan Sarkar to single Faculties, Government has practically robbed them of a considerable portion of their utility as members of the University.

The pettiest of the petty European Professors of the Presidency College have found seats on the new Senate, but a man of Dr. P. C. Ray's standing has not been regarded as worthy of the honour.

15. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th November notices with great regret the fact that there are only three Musalman names on the long list of 64 new Fellows of the reconstituted University of Calcutta. The

The list of new Fellows for the Calcutta University.

DAILY HITAVADI.  
Nov. 26th, 1904.



Musalman community may be more backward in education than the Hindu, but still a dozen suitable Fellows could be found for the new Senate. The omission of the names of highly-educated Musalmans like Khan Bahadur Muhammad Yusuff, Khan Bahadur Dilwar Hussain, Nawab Bahadur Amir Hussain and Maulvie Shamsul Huda can only be due to inadvertence on the part of the authorities. The paper expresses a hope that Government will immediately take steps to appoint a few more Musalmans as Fellows.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 26th, 1904.

16. Referring to the list of the Fellows of the Calcutta University, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the last week, which shows that out of a total of 64, only 7 are non-official Fellows, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 26th November comments that although, like the Calcutta Corporation, the Calcutta University has also become a Government institution, it would not support the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* which advises these seven Fellows to resign their seats, because no good can come out of such action. They should try to preserve the little privilege left to them by Government.

BHARAT MITRA.

17. Referring to the speech of Sir Andrew Fraser at the prize distribution of the Burdwan Raj College, in the course of which His Honour is said to have remarked that great credit was due to the Raj for maintaining the institution, but that he doubted the advisability of giving free education to all and suggested that at least some boys should be made to pay tuition fees, the same paper remarks that His Honour appears to be a true follower of the education policy of Lord Curzon. The Indian Government would not only make the education in the Government colleges expensive, but would endeavour as much as possible to introduce the same policy in private colleges as well. The paper is surprised that His Honour, who as the son of a clergyman should favour the policy of free education, holds quite contrary views.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Nov. 28th 1904.

18. In criticising the new list of Fellows for the reconstituted University of Calcutta, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th November notices the under-representation of Bihar on the new Senate. Only one Hindu and one Musalman from Bihar have found seats on the new University, and neither of these has direct connection with educational interests. There are four private colleges in Bihar, which, judged by the annual results at the University examinations, are nowise inferior to the Government College at Bankipur. And yet not a single representative from these colleges has found a place on the new Senate.

HITAVARTA,  
Nov. 27th, 1904.

19. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 27th November says that the appointment of Fellows of the Calcutta and the Allahabad Universities has been effected quite in accordance with the provisions of the Universities Act of Lord Curzon, that is, what we had protested against before the passing of the Universities Bill has practically come to pass. White men will now have an overwhelming majority in the Indian Universities. Lord Curzon's wish that the Indian Senate Houses should be converted into Government departments has been fulfilled.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 25th, 1904.

20. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th November writes:—  
Loyalty in text-books. It is intended to inculcate loyalty in our little boys through their text-books. Mr. Pedler has instructed authors writing books for use by little boys to be careful about inserting in their books the lives of such persons as have made themselves memorable by their display of respect and submission to authority. We do not quite follow the sense of this instruction of Mr. Pedler's. Does he mean to exclude the lives of those great men who laboured for the improvement of their country and their race, only because they had been unfortunate enough to incur the ill-will of the constituted authorities for the time being? Mr. Pedler should have explicitly stated if he meant to include or to exclude the lives of patriots like Vidyasagar, Ram Gopal Ghose and Haris Chandra Mukerjee. In fact, authors would find themselves in great difficulty unless they receive a previous



hint as to whose life in particular would be regarded as suitable by Government for imitation by little boys.

21. Referring to the instructions given to writers of Indian text-books by the authorities, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 26th November observes that text-books such as

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 26th, 1904.

Loyalty in text-books. those recommended would not be acceptable to Hindu and Muhammadan boys alike. Hindu boys ought to study the lives of Hindu worthies alone. Persons lacking the virtues enjoined by the Hindu *Sastras* who are otherwise well qualified can never serve as models for Hindu boys.

22. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 27th November has the following:—

HITAVARTA,  
Nov. 27th, 1904.

Loyalty in text-books. Mr. Pedler, our Director of Public Instruction, has by diving deep into the ocean of intellect found that by means of text-books for schools, the tree of loyalty, or, in other words, submission to authority, can be planted in the hearts of not only young students but even grown-up men, and with this view he has lately issued a circular published in the *Calcutta Gazette* to the effect that text-books should include "suitable biographical selections to inculcate in the pupils habits of order, etc., combined with submission to authority and reverence to their elders." We believe that experimenting with this pill of the Director of Public Instruction, officials would move Parliament to prepare boluses of loyalty to be thrust down the throat of the Indians. If good rule and proper treatment would fail to create feelings of loyalty among the people, can text-books ever do it? You cannot preserve the hair when you have cut off the head. The Indians are naturally loyal. It is, therefore, no use teaching loyalty to the Indian students by means of text-books. Indeed, if there is any need just now, it is for inculcating in the pupils a feeling of patriotism and love for their country. But the authorities here do not wish men to speak of; such qualities they rather repent of what they have hitherto done in teaching them and look upon the few, who owing to their Western education are imbued with those feelings, as being thorns if not actual enemies by their side. They are now devising means to extinguish even the little spark that may be glowing in the minds of the Indian youths, but the reaction which has set in is not likely to be stopped, thanks to the kindness and severe rule of our officials. Mr. Pedler's circular has, however, made it quite clear that the administration of Bengal has been so bad that signs of disloyalty are being detected even in young boys, or that a hundred and fifty years' British rule in India has failed to secure the loyalty of its people. Is this not very discreditable to the Government?

23. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 28th November publishes the following in English:—

DACCA GAZETTE,  
Nov. 28th, 1904.

Mr. Pedler's Circular.

Somehow or other those who are responsible for the good government of the country Providence has placed in their hands seem to have made a unique discovery, and that is, that the people of the country, from the prince to the peasant, notwithstanding all their loud professions to the contrary, entertain no very great kindly feelings for their governors; in short, they are disloyal in the heart of their hearts. By what process of reasoning they have come to this conclusion, what are the facts which have led them to it, is more than we can say.

The truth appears to be that honest and straightforward criticism of Government measures is often construed by the semi-official Anglo-Indian Press in the country as tantamount to hostility to Government.

The latest victim of this malady is no less a personage than Mr. Pedler, the Director of Public Instruction. Mr. Pedler seems to think that he can make the whole Bengali nation loyal by the aid of the text-books to be read in the schools and colleges under his jurisdiction. Holding this view of the matter, he has of late issued a circular letter, intended for the guidance of poor authors and publishers of text-books for use in schools in Bengal, to the effect that in the vernacular and English Readers a certain proportion should be devoted to suitable biographical selections calculated to inculcate in the students habits of order, diligence and truthfulness, combined with submission to authority and reverence to their elders. Now, reading the notification, one would run away with the idea that the text-books now in use in our schools are fully devoid of those wholesome pieces suggested in the notification, and as its result, they see the deplorable state of things to fight out which Mr. Pedler has girded up his loins. To speak the truth, there is a class of nervous people who smell the rat



everywhere. They are fighting against an enemy whose existence is to be found in their heated imagination. But we wish Mr. Pedler had taken the trouble to suggest the names of some of the worthies whose biographical sketches are likely to be acceptable to him. Has the life of Cromwell, of Napoleon, of Garibaldi, of Mazzini, of Nelson and a host of others, any chance of finding favour with Mr. Pedler? We are not sure if Raja Ram Mohun Roy, Isvar Chandra Vidyasagar, Haris Chandra Mukerjee, Kesub Chandra Sen, to speak nothing of Sivaji, Protapaditya, etc., etc., who have left indelible landmarks in the history of India, can be permitted to shine in the pages of the text-books to be written according to the spirit of the instructions issued by Mr. Pedler. For very few of the above-named persons will stand the test put down by Mr. Pedler. When measured in the scale of Mr. Pedler, one will perhaps be found to have been anything but docile and submissive, the other wanting in reverence to his fossilised elders, and the third always grumbling and crying for equal rights and privileges with their European fellow-subjects.

Be that as it may, we will only ask to be permitted to say, with all deference to Mr. Pedler, that the plant of loyalty is of slow growth, and its steady growth is to be safeguarded by uniform kind treatment of the people by the rulers of the country.

AL PUNCH,  
Nov. 26th, 1904.

24. Referring to the introduction of the new University system into schools, desired by Government, *Al Punch* [Bankipore] of the 26th November endorses the opinion of one of its contemporaries that the Government ought to start a model school on the new lines to enable Managers of other schools who have had experience of the old system to imitate it on being convinced of its usefulness and success.

NIHAR,  
Nov. 29th, 1904.

25. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 29th November, referring to the proposed establishment of a guru-training school at Analberya, near Contai in Midnapore, suggests that the town of Contai itself would have been a more convenient site for the location of the school. It is also pointed out that though the erection of the new school building is estimated to cost such a small sum as Rs. 500, a contractor from Midnapore town has been employed, instead of a local man who would have been on the spot to give his personal supervision to the work. As it is, the works already constructed do not promise to be very lasting. An act of jobbery seems to have been perpetrated, and the case calls for inquiry by the higher authorities.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

26. Mr. Allen, during his officiating incumbency as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality, says the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 19th November, discharged his duties very well. If he were permitted to hold that office for two years more the dirty and filthy condition of Calcutta would be greatly removed.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Nov. 28th, 1904.

27. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th November writes:—  
To the citizens of Calcutta the recent Government Resolution on the annual administration report of the Calcutta Municipality must prove extremely disappointing reading. They had felt themselves insulted and aggrieved by the systematic high-handedness and defiance of public criticism in which the Municipality has indulged. They had ceased to hope for any redress except from direct interference by the Government. And they had a right to expect such interference, considering the great reputation which Sir Andrew Fraser enjoys as a justice-loving ruler.

But as a matter of fact Sir Andrew Fraser in this Resolution poses more as a defender than as a corrector of abuses. He has devoted his ingenuity more to the concealment than to the removal of abuses. Departments of work which have proved only tolerably successful are specially singled out for



notice and praise, while as to the working of the other departments, which recently came in for such severe censure at the hands of the Special Committee, His Honour expresses the opinion that "the Special Committee drew attention to administrative defects noticed by them in the details of the year's working, and their action in doing so was endorsed by the general body of the Commissioners; but they altogether failed to recognise the great improvements that have been effected in every department." His Honour evidently intends to express the opinion that the defects of the Municipality as compared with its merits are so few that the Special Committee should have overlooked them. We can by no means agree in this view. His Honour, it is clear, is unwilling to look too closely into the various grave charges which the Special Committee formulated against the officers of the Municipality. But such a policy on his part can never command the approval and assent of the citizens of Calcutta.

The rate-payers are groaning under the combined oppression of the new Municipal Act and the municipal servants. The Calcutta Municipal Magistrate's Court offers a daily exhibition of scandalous scenes. Yet in utter disregard of these facts, "the Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that the period since the passing of the Act of 1899 has been one of continuous and, for the most part, successful effort after reform." We are daily being made to feel with a vengeance whether the new Act is really mending or ending local self-government. But His Honour would have us believe that "the question is not whether we should retrace our steps, but whether anything can be done to quicken and accelerate the rate of progress." His Honour need not hesitate about the course he should adopt. Particular changes in the old law have proved unexpected successes, as is evidenced by the actual working of the present Municipality. What is required to carry the Municipality rapidly to the highest pitch of perfection is to make further changes on the same lines. For instance, the reduction of the elective element and the simultaneous increase of the nominated and European elements account for the present splendid success of the Municipality. Even the few defects now existing would, however, be soon removed if an altogether clean sweep were made of the rate-payers' representatives. With such obvious means at his disposal, His Honour need have no anxiety as to the best course he should adopt "to quicken and accelerate the rate of progress." The adoption of these means will remove for ever all chance of friction and fault-finding in the Municipality.

28. The *Swadesi* [Barisal] of the 22nd November notices the following complaint against the Civil Surgeon of Barisal.

An allegation against the Civil Surgeon of Barisal.

It appears that a local gentleman of position had recently occasion to call at the hospital. He was waiting in the hospital verandah when the doctor arrived, and noticing that somebody had spat on the floor, began immediately to look about for the culprit. Finding nobody else present there but the gentlemen in question, he spotted him as the guilty party. Notwithstanding his strong protests of innocence, the doctor compelled the gentleman to rub out the spittle with his shoes. Not content with this, he next snatched at the shawl which the gentleman had on his person, threw it on the ground, and rubbed it on the floor with his shoes, so as to wipe the place thoroughly clean.

SWADESI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1904.

29. The same paper of the 29th November complains about the mismanagement of the district hospital at Barisal under the present Civil Surgeon. The number of

SWADESI  
Nov. 29th, 1904.

The sadar hospital at Barisal. patients is dwindling. Some patients are scared away by the want of manners displayed by the Civil Surgeon. Others, again, are scared away by the fees which the hospital underlings demand from them. The cholera ward is just now overfull of patients, but the single compounder who attends them at ordinary times has not been provided with any extra assistant. The Civil Surgeon is said to have issued orders restricting the Assistant Surgeon to the performance of minor operations only, no major operation being performed without the Civil Surgeon's previous permission.

30. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 22nd November draws attention to a serious outbreak of malaria epidemic in Tangail. Epidemics of malaria have been

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 22nd, 1904.

Malaria in Tangail. regular in Tangail for some years past, but the outbreak this year has attained an unprecedented virulence. An inquiry by a specially deputed



medical officer is urgently called for. The level of the local roads has recently been raised by excavation from the surrounding fields, and stagnant water has accumulated in these excavations. This point may probably be studied with advantage.

MEDINI BANDHAV,  
Nov. 23rd, 1904.

31. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 23rd November notices an outbreak of malaria in an epidemic form in various parts of the district of Midnapore. A small village

Malaria in Midnapore.

like Kadbani, with a population of 10 or 15 households, reports nine deaths in the course of a few days. Similarly, village Sanpur reports ten deaths from cholera. Like reports come from another village named Bhagwanpur.

SWADES HITAIISHI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1904.

32. The *Swades Hitaishi* [Rangpur] of the 23rd November calls attention to the outbreak of an epidemic of *kalazar* at

*Kalazar* in Rangpur.

Haridebpur and certain neighbouring villages in the district of Rangpur. A large number of deaths has already occurred, and organised medical relief is urgently called for.

PRATIKAR,  
Nov. 25th, 1904.

33. The *Pratihar* [Berhampur] of the 25th November, in noticing the prevalence of cholera in the town of Berhampur at the present time, points out that the local water-

The Berhampur water-works.

works, constructed through the munificence of the late Maharani Sarnamayi, often get out of order and create a temporary water-scarcity in the town. At such times the townspeople are put to a double expense. For they have to go on paying the municipal water rate as usual and have, besides, to arrange for a private supply by the *bhistis* from the river.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Nov. 28th, 1904.

34. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th November notices the outbreak of an epidemic of cholera at Rishra near Serampur and attributes it to the pollution of the local drinking-water supply by the septic tanks.

Cholera at Rishra near Seram-  
pur.

The hope is expressed that Government will take this case as a sufficient indication of the danger which the septic tanks constitute to the public health.

SWADESI,  
Nov. 29th, 1904.

35. The *Swadesi* [Barisal] of the 29th November draws attention to an outbreak of cholera in a severely epidemic form at Jhalkati Bandar in the district of Backergunge.

The public health in Backer-  
gunge.

About seven or eight deaths are daily reported. The cause is probably to be traced to the recent gathering of pilgrims at this place on the occasion of the *Kalipuja méla*. The *amins* and other officers connected with the survey operations now in progress in that locality have many of them fallen victims. The inhabitants are in a panic. Many of the shops have been deserted, and many patients are left without proper attendance.

The health of the town of Barisal also is reported to be bad. Some four or five cases of cholera have occurred, while malaria is present almost in every home.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA,  
Nov. 23rd, 1904.

36. The ingenious mosquito theory of Major Ross notwithstanding, the real cause of malaria in India, writes the *Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta]

The true cause of malaria.

of the 23rd November, is the extreme poverty of the masses. The campaign against mosquitos will not drive out malaria from the country. The truth is that the people have lost all vitality through poverty and cannot therefore resist the mildest onset of diseases. Improve the material condition of the people and give them sufficient food, and you will find that your malaria and mosquitos have lost their deadly character.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-ANANDA  
BAZAR PATRIKA.

37. The same paper has the following:—

The Government Resolution on  
plague precautionary measures.

There is a saying, "Man becomes wiser by degrees." We are glad to find that our Government is becoming wiser day by day in regard to the plague regulations. Though no progress appears to have been made in the discovery of the true cause of the malady and its prevention, yet Government has obtained valuable experience with regard to the enforcement of the plague regulations. At first these regulations were more terrible than the plague itself, and the tragic incidents at Bombay are still fresh in our minds. The Resolution published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 16th November on plague precautionary measures does away with all provisions which might prove a source of alarm. But it must be said that the best measures imaginable



for the prevention of plague have not yet been discovered. The present regulations, though excellent, are yet imperfect.

38. Commenting on the recent publication of certain amended regulations for combating plague, which were approved at the

The new plague rules.

late Conference of Divisional Commissioners at Darjeeling, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th November observes that Sir Andrew Fraser deserves the thanks of every Bengali for mitigating the severity of the old plague rules and for his policy of enlisting public sympathy and support in connection with the enforcement of the new regulations. But it is not easy to understand why these changes in the plague rules were discussed with such secrecy. Would it not have materially assisted the deliberations of Government if they had given the public an opportunity to criticise the amendments before they were finally adopted?

39. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 26th November says that Government has done wisely by promulgating the new plague regulations, which will effect a great reduction of the expenditure on plague measures, while removing all cause of popular dissatisfaction and alarm.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 25th, 1904.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 26th, 1904.

The new plague regulations.

40. Recurring to the subject of alleged mismanagement in the Sambhunath Pandit Hospital at Bhowanipur, Calcutta,

The Sambhunath Pandit Hospital, Bhowanipur.

(noticed in paragraph 43 of the Report on Native Papers in Bengal for the week ending the 26th November 1904), the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 25th November writes:—

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 25th, 1904.

Another matron of this hospital, Mrs. E. Walton, has resigned in the course of this week. She made certain representations to Dr. Brown regarding the mismanagement of the hospital generally and the conduct of Dr. Hazra in particular, but no notice appears yet to have been taken of them. There is now no matron left in the hospital: the work of matron is being carried on by two nurses in rotation. This resignation of Mrs. Walton creates the third vacancy in the post of matron during Dr. Hazra's tenure of office.

Among the many allegations made by Mrs. Walton against Dr. Hazra to Dr. Brown, before she left the service of the hospital, the following call for special notice:—

- (1) An old woman was some time ago admitted to the hospital for a broken leg. One day the inclined splint she had on accidentally slipped from its position, and Dr. Hazra was sent for to set it right. The doctor came and in course of conversation with the patient as to what had caused her splint to slip, gave a slap on her cheek and then gagged her, so that her cries of pain might not be heard. This took place at 9 o'clock in the night and was personally witnessed by Mrs. Walton and another night nurse on duty.
- (2) On another occasion, a girl of seven or eight years, of the *mehar* caste, was suspected by Dr. Hazra to have stolen something. To make her confess her supposed guilt, Dr. Hazra tortured her in the following manner. First she was kicked and thrown on the floor, and then beaten; next she was made to smart over the heat of a fire on which a pan of milk had been boiling; and, finally, she was caught up and thrown with violence against the floor.
- (3) It is further alleged that Dr. Hazra before he left for home on leave during the late Puja said to his *locum tenens* that if the latter could manage to trump up a false charge against Mrs. Walton during his tenure of office, he (Dr. Hazra) would give him a feast.

The following were the answers (in original) of Mrs. Walton to questions put to her on behalf of this paper:—

I served for three months in the Sambhunath Pandit Hospital.

Nurse Priscilla served under me for more than a month—I should think for about a month and a half.

I know nothing against Priscilla's character. I always found her regular and well-behaved.



The Resident Surgeon, Dr. Hazra, told me " : If you can get rid of these three or four nurses, I shall bring new ones in their place."

Frischilla's services were dispensed with, in my time, because she could not pull on well with Dr. Hazra.

I noticed Dr. Hazra's attachment for Rajbala (Rosy) and Priyatama. On one occasion I saw them (Dr. Hazra and Rosy) go to Barabazar in a cab. No one else went with them. It was very late in the evening ; I suppose 7 or 8 P.M.

On 9th November 1904, room patient occupying " Poisoning Room " on the ground floor wanted to see the Resident Surgeon. The attending nurse should have come to me first, but the Resident Surgeon was approached in the night without my knowledge. Shortly after, I followed them into the room.

The Resident Surgeon presented a tea-set and a dressing case (to Major Brown on the recent occasion of his wedding) valued at about Rs. 150 or Rs. 175. And Dr. Hazra told us he was going to present Mrs. Brown with a gold bangle very soon.

E. WALTON.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 26th, 1904.

41. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 26th November quotes the letter of a correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* in which the writer says that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, during his visit to Bhadreswar

The question of the Manicknagar Ghat Road.

on the 14th August last, had a talk with the mill-owners on the subject of the Manicknagar Ghat Road, but afterwards refused to grant an interview to a zamindar of Bhadreswar who wanted to speak to His Honour on the same subject. Why could not His Honour grant a few minutes' time to the zamindar? As there are two different roads leading to the river, one of which may be taken possession of by the mill-owners without any inconvenience to the public, it is a matter for serious consideration why it is the Manicknagar Ghat Road which Government proposes to acquire on behalf of the Company. It is to be hoped that Government will listen to the representations of both the parties and deal with the question impartially.

(1)—Questions affecting the land.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

42. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 19th November asks if the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal would look into the affairs of the Tikari estate recently released from the Court of Wards, and say why a solvent estate like

The estate of the Maharaja of Tikari.

Tikari should have been so encumbered during the administration of the Court of Wards.

The liabilities of the estate at the time of release amounted to Rs. 37,000, in spite of the fact that the estate had no debts when it was taken over by the Court and had an income amounting to seven lakhs of rupees per annum.

PALLIVASI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1904.

43. Referring to the recent assumption of the management of the Bhawal estate in Dacca by the Court of Wards, the *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 23rd November points out

The Bhawal estate in Dacca.

that the selection of a European instead of a native as manager under the new régime involves an injustice both to the estate and to the native community at large. For the estate is put to the extra expense of paying for a European, and the native community is deprived of one of the appointments which it expects to fill. And, further, how few estates have really benefited under European management?

The paper further insists on the duty of Government to make a clear statement of the circumstances connected with the transfer of this estate to the management of the Court of Wards, so as to clear up the present doubts in the public mind about the legal difficulties of the transfer.

KASIPUR NIVASI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1904.

44. A correspondent of the *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 23rd November

Survey and settlement operations in the Backergunge district.

says that the apportionment of the cost of the survey and record-of-rights in the Backergunge district, as made by the apportionment order of the Government of Bengal, can hardly be regarded as fair, inasmuch as the cost is made payable at fixed rates per rupee of the amount of annual revenue or rent, and not in accordance with the net income of the proprietors or tenure holders. There are many zamindaris and taluks of which the annual revenue is very small and consequently the incomes are large, while there are others in which the reverse is the case. The incidence of the cost therefore can never be



fair if the apportionment is to be made according to the order of Government. The writer suggests that Government should remove the grievance by apportioning the cost on the basis of the incomes of the landlords.

45. The same paper hears that the settlement employes in the Backergunge district are severely oppressing the raiyats of many villages within the jurisdiction of the Gaurnadi police-station. The former are said to be exacting annas 8 to annas 10 for every *parcha*. The attention of the Settlement Officer is invited to the matter.

KASIPUR NIVASI,

Survey and settlement operations in the Backergunge district.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

46. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 23rd November complains of the oppressive tendency of the newly-issued revised water-rate rules for the Midnapore Canals. The rate per acre has been increased from a rupee and a half to two rupees, the rules for collecting the rate have been made more stringent, and the supply of canal water to the fields for purposes of irrigation has also been placed under greater restrictions.

MEDINI BANDHAV,  
Nov. 23rd, 1904.

47. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th November, in drawing attention to the generally uncivil and offensive manners of the tramway conductors in Calcutta, mentions the following case as a specially gross instance of misbehaviour and, as such, calling for immediate notice from the authorities concerned. The facts appear to be as follow. On the 26th November last, a return car from Kalighat had halted at a certain point on its route just after passing the Bhawanipur thana, to take up and set down passengers. Just then a party of three women, all newly-arrived pilgrims from East Bengal, attempted to board the car. One of the women had already got on the footboard, when the conductor objected to their entering the car on the ground that they carried too much baggage with them. As the conductor spoke in Hindi, a language which they did not understand, the women did not desist from attempting to enter the car. The conductor then gave a push to the woman who stood on the footboard. Unable to resist the shock, she fell into a drain near by. The conductor now alighted from the car and went to offer help, but seeing that no blood was issuing from any part of her body, he returned without doing anything, got on the car and signalled to the driver to proceed. Babu Purna Chandra Halder (of No. 22, Haris Chandra Murkerjee's Street) and Babu Natabar Chandra Das (of No. 14, Gobinda Basu's lane, Bhowanipur) saw what is described above. And the numbers of the guilty conductor, of the trailer car and of the motor car were respectively 639, 190, and 44.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Nov. 27th, 1904.

48. The same paper notices a case of railway accident as follows:—On the evening of the 25th November last, the No. 29 up local train when it reached Bally station on the East Indian Railway gradually slackened its speed preparatory to coming to a halt. The passengers had many of them opened the doors of their carriages and were on the point of alighting on the platform when the train again suddenly started and after advancing ten to fifteen cubits again came to a halt. The effect of this sudden movement of the train was to throw with violence on the platform such of the passengers as had stood too near the open door or on the footboard. Injuries more or less serious have been the result. To add insult to injury, the injured men were threatened with criminal prosecution by the guard on the charge of attempting to leave a car while in motion. There might have been something to justify such a threat if only two or three passengers had been concerned. But how can the guard explain such an attempt made simultaneously by a number of passengers, including many infirm females? A similar case recently happened at Mankundu station. Such accidents are due to the negligence either of the guard or the driver concerned. The matter deserves inquiry at the hands of the authorities.

DAILY HITAVADI,

49. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 29th November points out that the work of reaping the local crops which have ripened is being retarded by the water standing on the fields. This water is also damaging the straw. Some-

NIHAR,  
Nov. 29th, 1904.

Apprehended destruction of the crops in Contai.



thing should be done immediately to drain the water of the fields, if the cultivators are to be spared trouble when their rents become due.

NIMAR.

50. The same paper draws attention to the danger to the lives of men and cattle caused by the absence of wire-fencing along the track of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

A railway complaint.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Nov. 30th, 1904.

51. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th November suggests an amendment in connection with the existing rule on Indian railways regarding the grant of a free

A suggestion.

allowance of luggage to passengers. At present the passenger gets the benefit of this concession only in case he gets his luggage weighed before beginning the journey. If, however, the luggage is weighed at the station where the journey ends, the passenger is considered to have forfeited his claim to the free allowance of luggage to which he was entitled, and the whole weight is charged for under the regular schedule without any deduction being made from it. But it is pointed out that it is often a very difficult matter for a passenger to get his luggage weighed before he begins his journey. For even at places like Howrah and Sealdah, an attempt to get the luggage weighed means either wholesale bribery of the railway subordinates concerned or interminable delays, with a chance of the correct train being missed altogether. In consideration of these difficulties it is suggested that the rule be so amended as to secure to the passengers the benefit of the concession even when their luggage is weighed at the end of their journey.

(h)—General.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

52. Commenting upon the Government of India's reply to the suggestion made by the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces regarding the sale of liquor, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 19th November is surprised to see the Government declaring liquor as a necessity in this country.

Government on the sale of spirits.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 22nd, 1904.

53. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 22nd November, in noticing the recent nomination to the Provincial Civil Service of a son of Rai Akhoy Kumar Sen Bahadur, the well-known retired Deputy Magistrate, resident at Dacca, observes that it is a reward which the Rai Bahadur has earned by the attitude of treachery to his country which he took up on the partition question. The new nominee was only a student of the fourth-year class at the Dacca College. This appointment seems to justify the suspicion that the real reason which led to the abolition of the competitive examinations was a desire on the part of Government to have a means ready at hand which could be used to reward the supporters of its policy.

A recent appointment to the Provincial Civil Service.

CHARU MIHIR.

54. The same paper writes :—

The present policy of Government.

A study of the present policy of the Government of India is calculated to lead all thoughtful people to indulge in conjectures as to where it will finally lead. That India is ruled with a single eye to the good of the ruled is a creed which is daily dying out among the Indian public. The people of India, whatever else they may be, are no fools. And Lord Curzon has not been able to hypnotise them with his eloquence. In their eyes, the praises which the *London Times* is lavishing on the *ex-Viceroy*, appear so much meaningless writing. The keynote of Lord Curzon's policy, as seen by Indian eyes, is a desire to provide for men of his own race.

If he had so wished, Lord Curzon might have conferred untold blessings on the people of India. But as a matter of fact, almost all his acts are calculated to prove antagonistic to Indian interests. In the illiberality of his policy he has surpassed even Lord Lytton.

The people of India are not wanting in generosity. They are grateful for small favours. No people on earth are more easy to satisfy. The ruler therefore who fails to win a good name in India does not deserve to succeed better anywhere else. Lord Ripon's name has become almost a household word in India. Why? It is not for any great administrative measures that



he left behind. It is because the people of India are accustomed to read men's hearts, and could therefore appreciate Lord Ripon's hidden motives. It is this which explains Lord Ripon's popularity among Indians—a popularity to which there is no parallel in the modern history of India and which the lapse of years has done nothing to efface.

Lord Curzon has not followed in Lord Ripon's footsteps. On the contrary, as a result of his policy the few beneficial measures which were inaugurated by Lord Ripon are threatened with premature extinction. We sometimes feel inclined to think that Lord Curzon was sent out by the Ministry at Home for the deliberate purpose of laying the axe at the root of the liberal policy inaugurated by Lord Ripon. Evidently, in their conception as to the form of the future government of India the present Ministers and Lord Macaulay do not agree. Time was when we believed that the British Government would bless India with a full measure of self-government. But that faith is gradually dying out of our mind. Our present rulers do not desire to see Indians enjoying any powers in the government of their own country. One branch of the tree of self-government has been felled by Lord Curzon. The Universities Act will make high education more difficult of attainment by the public. The really high posts in the State have always been closed to the natives. And in the case of the Provincial Civil Service, the introduction of the nomination system is interpreted by the public as an attempt to facilitate the employment of a larger number of whites in these posts, to the exclusion of the Indians who hitherto practically monopolised them. Lord Curzon has shown a special partiality for government by "Commissions," but none of these Commissions have yet led to any good results. As to the Police Commission, whose report is not yet out, many people fear that its principal recommendation will be the exclusion of natives from the higher ranks of the force. The partition of Bengal will probably prove one of the causes of the ultimate total destruction of the Bengali race. In truth, no Viceroy ever acted in such systematic defiance of public opinion as Lord Curzon is doing.

55. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 26th November has a long letter in which some prophecies are made regarding the future labours of Lord Curzon. "What is fated, can never be abated," therefore Lord Curzon is coming out to India for two years again. He has been delayed so long in England though against his wish. He has probably to arrange a grand Durbar again in India; has to see the proposals of his various Commissions carried through; has to inaugurate his education policy, which will deprive the poor altogether from educating their children; he has also to connect Kabul with a railway and to establish a British colony in Kashmir; he has to partition the Province of Bengal, and to see to the completion of the Victoria Memorial Hall. There are a good many other matters which, though begun, have not yet been completed. To these Lord Curzon will give a finishing touch!

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 26th, 1904.

There were certain defects in the last Delhi Darbar. The Maharana of Udaipur did not join the elephant procession, nor could he attend the Durbar and offer his fealty to the throne. The Maharaja of Baroda was not in the elephant procession and he attended the Durbar in a very simple dress. It was an occasion of such pomp and splendour that even Lord Curzon appeared in embroidered pantaloons and occupied a golden throne, when the Duke of Connaught had to remain satisfied with a silver chair only. Besides, the Maharaja did not bow down to the proper extent but went away after shaking hands. Perhaps another Durbar will be necessary to make up the defects (to take revenge).

56. Referring to the various rumours afloat about the partition question, the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 22nd November writes:—

The partition question.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 22nd, 1904.

We are not prepared to credit any and every rumour. But all the same we believe that Government has not yet abandoned its intention. Probably the partition of Bengal is inevitable. Such partition in any shape whatever will be distasteful to the people. This should be made clear to Government. If the whole country unite in one wail of supplication, Government will never have



the heart to turn a deaf ear to it. Let the people of Bengal be up and doing, for the time available is getting shorter.

SANSODHINI,  
Nov. 25th, 1904.

57. The *Sansodhini* [Chittagong] of the 25th November says that all its objections to the partition scheme have almost disappeared in consequence of the new form which

The partition scheme.

it has now assumed. But the formation of a new province consisting of the Rajshahi, Dacca and Chittagong Divisions must increase the expenditure. Lord Curzon is a power-loving Viceroy; he is therefore not in favour of a Governorship, which will put an end to his authority. By the establishment of a separate Lieutenant-Governorship many new posts for Civilians will be created. Lord Curzon has openly declared that he wishes to favour the Indian Civilians. By the new scheme of partition two provinces will be formed. The Hindus will be predominant in the one and the Muhammadans in the other. Time will show whether this change will help to promote good feelings between the two communities. By the division of the Bengalis into two parts, no change for the worse is likely to take place. Reformers ought to look to the moral regeneration of the people, which, when effected, will infuse fresh life into them.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
Nov. 28th, 1904

58. Babu Guru Ganga Aich Chowdhuri, Editor of the *Gaurab* newspaper, writes to the *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 28th

The proposed partition of Bengal—a defence. November as follows:—

As I find the people of East Bengal are about to inflict the severest blow upon themselves by joining the interested agitation of the Calcutta newspapers, they would do well to think over the following points:—

If the rumour that His Excellency Lord Curzon has obtained the sanction of the Secretary of State for India to the proposed partition scheme be true, the people of East Bengal ought to rejoice at the news. I shall briefly point out the advantages that will result. If the hope which was held out by Lord Curzon in his Dacca and Mymensingh speeches be realised, then Dacca will surely be made the capital of the new province. There is no ground for the apprehension that this hope, which was given by His Excellency, will not be realised, as it is unlikely that either Chittagong, though it is very convenient for trade, and yet most unhealthy to the Bengalis and deficient in the supply of all kinds of food-stuffs, or Shillong which is so inaccessible, would be made the capital. There is less probability of the capital town being transferred from Dacca to Shillong than there is of the seat of Government being transferred from Calcutta to Darjeeling. It is therefore most likely that the capital of the new province will be located at Dacca. If, then, Dacca is made the capital, it will be revived from its present moribund condition and will rival Calcutta in all matters. Is this not a great gain to the people of East Bengal?

All the rich men of Bengal have begun to live in Calcutta permanently in order to come in contact with the officials. Thus zamindars and other moneyed men whose aggregate income approaches a crore of rupees annually, are spending all their wealth in Calcutta. Even the lower classes of Calcutta have availed themselves of the opportunity and have become rich. All sorts of good things in this part of the country are being hurried to Calcutta for their enjoyment. For this reason East Bengal is becoming poorer and more and more destitute every day. Do all people, except those who would part with all they possess for the enjoyment of others, like to sacrifice all enjoyable things for the inhabitants of Calcutta? Indeed, those East Bengalis who are far-sighted and who care for the morrow would prefer Dacca to Calcutta as a capital town. If the higher officials from the Lieutenant-Governor downwards should begin to live in Dacca, the zamindars of East Bengal would also be obliged to live there. By this means part of the increasing wealth of Calcutta will flow towards Dacca, the trouble and loss consequent upon the journey to and from Calcutta will be put an end to, and a large part of the salaries of officials will be put into the pockets of the people of East Bengal in the shape of charges of articles for consumption and enjoyment. Are not all these considerations very encouraging?

Under the existing arrangement each Division sends a member to the Provincial Legislative Council every four years for a term of two years. By the proposed change there will remain only four Divisions out of nine in the



new Province, and therefore each Division will be represented every year in the new Legislative Council. Moreover, the other four members elected by the zamindars, the Chamber of Commerce, the University and the metropolitan Municipality, who are now mostly elected from Calcutta, will be elected from Dacca or East Bengal. Thus five or six persons from East Bengal will be able to secure the much-coveted memberships.

Authors in East Bengal have always met with disappointment in their attempt to have their books selected as text-books. Authors living in Calcutta manage to get their books selected as text-books through the recommendations of influential patrons. By the proposed change there will be the greatest likelihood of this complaint disappearing, as there is a Text-Book Committee even in backward Assam. Like the Presidency College of Calcutta, the Dacca College will be made a Model College, and students from East Bengal will no longer require to go to Calcutta to study in the Presidency College.

The people of Calcutta not only succeed in securing Government service, but they also win the titles of Raja and Maharaja through their opportunity to flatter the officials; but the people of East Bengal, though much better qualified, fail to gain those advantages solely owing to the absence of such opportunity. These inconveniences will disappear if Dacca is made the capital town.

Long essays should be written to show the futility of the arguments of persons who are afraid of a deterioration of vernacular literature. Such essays will be regularly published in my paper, the *Gaurab*, which is a monthly paper. [I must mention here that the literature of Dacca has benefited by that of Calcutta just as much as the literature of Calcutta has profited by that of Assam or Orissa. The literature of Calcutta is faulty to a degree, and the language and sentiments of East Bengal are being corrupted by the study of Calcutta literature.]

By the establishment of a separate Government in East Bengal, the people will not be dependent upon Calcutta for the supply of the latest news, the inevitable result of this being the ruin of the Calcutta papers. It is for this reason that the Calcutta papers have raised a howl against Lord Curzon and are trying to incite the people of East Bengal to oppose His Excellency. I am deeply sorry to see that many persons of East Bengal have been deceived by the outcry. The fact is that should His Excellency, without being disgusted by these ravings, do his duty by granting a separate Government and a Legislative Council to East Bengal he will have conferred a great blessing upon it. It is to be hoped that no one will be disposed to do such a disreputable act as to find fault with His Excellency.

59. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 24th November learns that Government has paid the costs of the defamation case brought against its Editor by Babu Gopal Chandra Bhaumik, the Inspector of the Chittagong Forest Division, and quotes Circular No. <sup>30 Public</sup> <sub>1676-1685</sub>, dated the 5th September 1890, of the Government of India, Home Department, to show that the case in question was one in which the complainant could not be held entitled to get his costs paid by Government. The case was not decided in favour of Gopal Babu, nor was he pronounced above all suspicion by the Court. Here is a quotation from the judgment:—

"After giving due consideration to the above facts, I think that the allegation of the complainant (Gopal Chandra Bhaumik) having asked for bribe from Broja Kumar Sen may have some foundation in fact."

The impression that the evidence on the whole has made in my mind is that, though there is no satisfactory proof of any particular act of dishonesty against the complainant, his conduct is open to great suspicion. He appears to have acquired some property which it would be impossible to do with his pay alone, which at no time exceeded Rs. 50."

Moreover, in conducting the case Gopal Babu had to undergo very little or no expense, as pleaders, mukhtars and witnesses did not charge him anything. It is therefore inexplicable how Gopal Babu could be paid any amount by Government as costs for the prosecution, or at any rate, so much as Rs. 300. The matter demands the attention of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

JYOTI,  
Nov. 24th, 1904.



KHULNABARI,  
Nov. 26th, 1904.

60. The *Khulnabari* [Khulna] of the 26th November notices a complaint against Babu Ram Kamal Gupta, the Income-Tax Deputy Collector of Khulna. It is alleged that under the system of assessment enforced by this officer, the rate of taxes is being doubled in many cases. Almost all persons are being indiscriminately assessed, without any correct examination of their real incomes. Few small traders have a chance of being exempted. The interference of the District Magistrate is solicited.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Nov. 26th, 1904.

61. A recent advertisement in the *Times in India* newspaper [of Bombay] inviting applications for a post in the Political Department, on Rs. 100 per month, from people other than natives of India, furnishes the occasion for the following article in the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th November:—

The Political Department of the Government is pre-eminent among the Government departments for its crooked policy and its mysterious ways. This is the department charged with the duty of devising and carrying out various measures connected with the preservation of the Empire. The destiny of the Native Princes is also entrusted in the hands of the officers of this department. Political exigencies are used as a justification by our rulers for tolerating various acts of omission and commission in connection with Indian administrative policy. The information collected by the Political Department oftentimes forms the basis of important acts of administration. It is probably for all these reasons that the higher offices in this department have been closed to the natives of India.

But we are now surprised to see that Government is not prepared to trust a native with even a petty post in this department worth only a hundred rupees a month. What can be the reason? If the presence of a native in the department is supposed to facilitate the divulgence of political secrets, one may inquire: What does the Official Secrets Act exist on the Statute Book for? Can that Act have been meant only to curb the independence of the Press? Lord Curzon, however, expressed the opinion that the object of that Act was to prevent the publication of political and military information, which it was not to the interest of the State to be divulged. Evidently, then, our rulers are not satisfied with the measures they have already taken to lock and double-lock their own secrets. They would have a further guarantee in the shape of the exclusion of natives, however highly respectable, from even the petty posts in the Political and Military Departments. What is at the root of all this policy but a deep distrust on the part of Government of its own subjects?

India is a land of diverse races—Hindus and Musalmans, Sikhs and Christians, Jews and Parsees. Can none of these be found worthy of trust by Government? Are not the officials aware that trust begets trust? And, further, where is the justification for all this distrust of the native races? It was only the other day that Lord Curzon made a public declaration of his faith in the loyalty of the Indians. Did he not say that the Indians wished for the maintenance of British rule because British rule was founded on justice and sympathy? And are there not innumerable instances where the people of India have proved by actual performance the strength of their loyalty? Is it not a fact that many natives disregarded the interests of their own race, and turned traitors to their own country only to preserve the interests of the Europeans, to gain the favour of the ruling classes, and to strengthen the hold of British rule on the country? And are there not even now hundreds of Indians ready to turn traitors to their own countrymen if only they can thereby win the confidence of their conquerors? Why, then, this distrust of the natives by the English? Unhappy must the lot of the Indian who turns a traitor to his own country and his own people in order to ingratiate himself with his masters, and yet finds himself scorned and distrusted. These unfortunate men only end by ruining their chances with both parties.

#### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

62. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 19th November is glad that the Bombay *Times*, an Anglo-Indian paper, has drawn attention to the illicit earnings of the Political Officers in the Native States. The treatment which the Native



Chiefs really receive at the hands of the Political Officers and their subordinates is much worse than what that paper has described. It is not only the Political Officers, but their relations also who come and amuse themselves at the cost of the State. On the occasion of the last Delhi Durbar the Resident of Kashmir had his splendid camp pitched close to that of the Maharaja. Did the Resident pay for it? Many Native Chiefs complain of the extravagance of their Political Agents, but who listens to them?

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

63. Referring to the election of Sir Henry Cotton to the Presidentship of the ensuing Indian National Congress, the

The greater necessity of a religious Congress in place of the National Congress.

*Aryavarta* [Ranchi] of the 19th November regrets the degenerated condition of India, inasmuch as a foreigner had to be invited to preside over Congress

not a single man of this country having the ability to occupy the chair. It hopes that if the Indians, leaving aside all such gatherings, were to hold religious meetings, substantial progress might be made in the country and the necessity of inviting foreigners to preside over their deliberations obviated. It advises Congressmen to give this suggestion a trial once, and invites the Press to support its views.

ARYAVARTA,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

64. Referring to the prayer of the clergy of India at their grand meeting of the 20th instant, imploring God to be so merciful

The grand meeting of the Indian clergy.

as to make the Anglo-Indian officials fear Him when devising plans and laws for the administration of

this country, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 19th November remarks that this prayer of the Padres is not on the whole bad, and we say amen to it, and adds, May God also give these Christian missionaries the good sense not to convert the followers of other religions by objectionable means, and not to make Christians of the orphans at the time of famine by offering them the bait of food. A desired is expressed that they may not convert any but those convinced who are of the truth of Christianity, and see that they may that their doings are not brought before judicial tribunals.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 19th 1904.

65. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 19th November has the following:—

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

Indians and self-government.

The condition of India is becoming miserable day by day. Famine and plague are reigning supreme in the country, making the people their victims by thousands. Want is eating into their vitals and their whole life is spent in earning their bread, leaving them no time to think of anything else. It is true that education has spread to some extent, but what of that when they do not receive their due respect and no faith is put in their loyalty? In fact, Government does not trust the people. Lord Curzon made this clear when in his budget speech last year he declared that there are posts under Government which cannot be given to the Indians as they are altogether unfit for them. In this way every opportunity is taken to keep them (in the background).

The native Chiefs are not treated with that consideration which was promised to them by a Royal Proclamation, as everyone may have seen from the proceedings at the last Delhi Durbar. They are now little better than common subjects. The Political Officers are now all in all with them. If the people had been allowed to grow with the prosperity of the British Empire, India would assume a different look altogether. Poverty and pestilence would not be heard of in the country. Indians would be holding high military offices or be appointed Ministers of State. The English people are at present showing much concern about the Negroes of Liberia in Africa, who are only two lakhs in number, and the question arises, why are they so indifferent to their Indian subjects? The late Babu Bhudev Mukerji was quite right when he said in one of his books that India would possess learned men, a trained army, and a strong navy equally like European countries if England had not been ruling over it. How can one show his capacity for work when he is allowed no opportunity for doing so? How can a man work when another is disturbing him? This is why India is peaceful and inactive. Japan is in no way superior to India, and if India had been a similarly independent country, she would have been able to hold her own against any European country, as Japan is doing at the present day.



Although it is an age since Bhudev Babu uttered these words, they are as true to-day as they were when he uttered them. Independence is not required. What is required is only a little liberality. The Indians can yet grow if the severity of strict laws is a little relaxed and the heart of the officials broadened.

BANGAVASI.  
Nov. 28th, 1904.

66. In an article headed "What do we want?" the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 26th November observes:—

British and Russian systems of administration contrasted.

We know what the Russian administration in Central Asia is. It is an absolutism, and we do not want it. The Russian Government banishes its subjects by the score without any trial. Not even a hundredth part of the liberty which the Press enjoys in the British Empire is to be found in the Russian Empire. The Russian newspapers are not permitted to criticise fearlessly and freely the administration of the Czar. The cruelty of the Russian Cossacks makes the hair stand on end. Can there be any comparison between the Russians and the English?

The English are our rulers and we are their subjects; they are our *ma bap* and we are their children. They afford the delightful shade wherein we wish to take shelter. We know the sovereign to be a god. We wish to revere the English and expect to be loved by them in return. We do not want equal rights with them. It is not desirable that the English should hate us. Mr. Labouchere says in *Truth* that the English hate the Indians. It cannot be said that all Englishmen hate the Indians. Had that been the case, British rule in India would certainly have assumed a totally different shape during the last 150 years. But there is a substratum of truth in the above allegation. Particular Englishmen or classes of Englishmen do hate the Indians. Certain English officials do injustice to the Indians either through misconception or inherent dislike. There are tea-planters who cruelly ill-treat the coolies and British soldiers who kill or insult the Indians. But these are isolated cases and do not warrant the general conclusion that Englishmen in general hate the Indians. It must be admitted, however, that these isolated cases do much harm. The Indian people regard every Englishman as belonging to the class of rulers, and hence every act of injustice or oppression by an individual Englishman gives rise to the impression that the whole English nation is tyrannical. What we want is that not a single official may commit the slightest injustice or oppression.

It cannot be said that strong measures are not taken from time to time when the Indians are oppressed by Englishmen. Lord Curzon and Lord Kitchener have shown that they are determined to put down oppression of helpless Indians by British soldiers. This is exactly what we want. Anglo-Indian newspaper editors sometimes remain silent when an injustice is done by an Englishman: not unoften they support the wrongdoer. This is very bad. We do not want equal rights and equal privileges, but we want good government, we want food and drink from our rulers.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 28th, 1904.

67. Commenting on the article that has appeared in *Truth* of London, in which that paper has criticised the British administration of India as being far inferior to that of Russia, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 28th November

The British Government and the people of India.

says that we Indians do not want Russian rule, for it is despotic, and thousands of its subjects fall victims to her unjust and cruel policy. Our prayer is that in return for our loyalty our Sovereign will give us good government, justice, sympathy, encouragement and the confidence of our rulers. We want that the officials may not oppress the Indians, and that the English Press may not take the side of an Englishman when if he has done wrong.

In fact, we want only food and nothing else. Let the rulers continue to be rulers and the subjects to be subjects.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 28th, 1904.

68. Referring to the Birmingham speech of the Duke of Argyle that

Sending British Military officers to Japan for training.

provision should be made in every school and sporting club of England to train their members in the practice of musketry, so that the rising generation may become good marksmen, which idea seems to have struck the noble Duke on seeing the superior knowledge of the Japanese in that art, and also referring to the recent circular of the War Office in England to the effect that four selected Captains or Lieutenants shall be sent to Japan for military



training every year, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 26th November remarks that it is strange that England shall become a disciple of Japan, and adds that Lord Curzon had remarked, when a proposal was before him to send some Indian scholars to Japan at the State expense for study, that Japan was only a novice yet and that Indian scholars had nothing to learn there. It is surprising therefore that only in a few months the English opinion should have so widely changed!

69. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 27th November is sorry to see the rapid increase in imports of European goods in spite of so much agitation for using articles of native manufacture.

The indigenous industries.

HITAVARTA  
Nov. 27th, 1904.

#### URIYA PAPERS.

70. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 16th November states that the health of Balasore town is not good and that a malignant type of fever prevails there.

The health of Balasore town.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
Nov. 16th, 1904.

71. The same paper supports the memorial presented to Government by Raja Baikunthanath De of Balasore in behalf of the domiciled Bengalis in Orissa, whose claims to the Provincial and Subordinate Executive Services are said to have been overlooked in the past twenty years. As the domiciled Bengalis form an important section of the native community in Orissa, the claims of such among them as are educated to the aforesaid services are as good as those of the genuine Uriyas. The writer strongly objects to the use of the expression "genuine Uriyas," as the ancestors of the Uriyas who pass by that name settled themselves in Orissa only a little earlier than the Telegus, Bengalis and Muhammadans in that Province.

The claims of domiciled Bengalis in Orissa to the Provincial Civil Service.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD.

72. The same paper, as also its contemporary of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 19th November, gives an account of the Gaekwar of Baroda's visit to Bhuvaneswar, Puri and Kanarak and is satisfied that he was well received in every station through which he passed. He received addresses from two important Associations in Puri and gave fitting replies to the same. His donations to the Puri temple, the cholera hospital, the pilgrim fund and other charitable institutions were in keeping with his rank as an Indian Prince. His dealings with his Indian brethren were frank and polite. He has left good impressions behind him.

The Gaekwar of Baroda in Orissa.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD.

73. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 19th November sympathises with the Rajas of Nayagarh and Sorangi, both of whom lost their sons who were very young. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 17th November and the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 19th November address words of consolation to the Rajas.

Deaths of the sons of the Rajas of Nayagarh and Sorangi.

GARJATBASINI,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.  
SAMVAD VAHIKA,  
Nov. 17th, 1904.  
UTKALDIPIKA,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

74. Referring to the arrangements made in Calcutta by Government to supply news to the Indian Press, all the native papers of Orissa are inclined to think that they may prove useful to the public. The *Garjatbasini* thinks that this confiding policy adopted in connection with the Indian Press may soften the feelings of the Indian people, much irritated by the enactment of the Official Secrets Act in the teeth of the opposition made by their representatives in the Supreme Council.

The Press-room.

ALL URIYA PAPERS.

75. All the native papers of Orissa are glad that the minor Raja of Dhenkanal has got a son and heir to the Dhenkanal throne.

Birth of an heir to the Dhenkanal Raja.

ALL URIYA PAPERS.

76. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 19th November states that the state of the rice crop in the Orissa Garjats is not good. Though there is no danger of a scarcity of food, the future outlook is not bright.

The rice crop in the Garjats.

GARJATBASINI,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

77. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 17th November states that branches of the Utkal Union Conference have been established in different parts of the Balasore

The Utkal Union Conference.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,  
Nov. 17th, 1904.



district through the exertions of Babu Bholanath Samant, presumably an accredited agent of the Association.

UTKALDIPIKA.  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

78. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 19th November states that branches of the Utkal Union Conference have been established in Madhapur, Kothpada, Katrapur, Bhadrak, Sriramchandrapur, Kanakpur, Deuli and Mayurbhanj, and that the general people seem to be much interested in the movement.

SAHAB VARIKA,  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

79. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 17th November estimates a loss of two to four anna paddy crop in the Cuttack and Balasore districts of the Orissa Division due to drought, and observes that if it rains now, it will simply damage the ripe paddy, though some good may be done to the *rabi*.

UTKALDIPIKA.  
Nov. 19th, 1904.

80. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 19th November regrets that the only Madrassa in Rautrapur in Cuttack that educates both the Muhammadan boys and girls and that has worked for the last 34 years is going to be abolished for want of funds. Kaji Mirza Muhammad Yusuf, who was the life of the institution, is in reduced circumstances, while the factious spirit of the Muhammadans prevents them from working together for the general good of the community. The writer hopes that the leaders of the Muhammadan community will take proper steps to prevent the sudden collapse of the institution.

UTKALDIPIKA.

81. The same paper states that the road between Jajpur and Bhadrak is in a deplorable condition, and that, as a consequence, internal traffic suffers. Of this road, two miles are under the supervision of the Jajpur Local Board, and that Board has kept it in a fit state of repair. The remaining seven miles are under the control of the Balasore District Board, and this Board has done very little to make it passable. Indeed, the five miles between Balighai and Munjuri are in the worst condition imaginable. The writer suggests that the existing bridges in that part of the road may be so widened as to allow large volumes of flood-water to pass through them and thus prevent the road from being washed off.

UTKALDIPIKA.

82. Referring to the diminished number of licenses granted in 1903 under the Indian Arms Act, the same paper suggests that the number of licenses granted under that Act should increase every year in view of the fact that the loss of human life due to the attacks of wild animals is increasing year after year.

UTKALDIPIKA.

83. The same paper approves of the proposal of its contemporary of the *Nivedan* to have the accounts of the Puri and Satyabadi temple endowments in the Puri district examined every year by a public auditor and published for the information of the public. This will no doubt expose the inner working of the temple establishment to public view and thereby impose a salutary check on their general procedure.

UTKALDIPIKA.

84. The same paper objects strongly to the action of Government in connection with the Maniktolia Municipality. To reject the Chairman elected by the Municipal Commissioners, simply because the Divisional Commissioner reported to Government that the Chairman was new to his work, is no doubt an interference with the smooth working of the principle of local self-government in Bengal.

UTKALDIPIKA.

85. In referring to the fight between the two Kajis of Cuttack in the Criminal Court of that district, the same paper observes that the District Registrar of Cuttack has made such scandalous proceedings possible by recommending a man to the post of Marriage Registrar who is neither loved nor respected by the local Muhammadan community in Cuttack.

UTKALDIPIKA.

86. The same paper states that three men died of cholera in Cuttack in the last week.



( 1097 )

87. The Puri correspondent of the same paper states that several houses were burnt down in Markandasahi, Matimandap-sahi and Balisahi in the Puri town in the last week.

UTKALINIKHA.

The health of Puri town.

88. The same correspondent of the same paper states that the general health of the Puri town is good.

UTKALINIKHA.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 3rd December 1904.



1847  
The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been admitted to the membership of the Society since the last meeting of the Council.

ADMISSIONS

1. Mr. J. H. Smith, of New York.  
2. Mr. W. B. Jones, of New York.